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[To the Editor, with the compliments of Kinahan
Cornwallis, 95 Nassau Street, New York City]

Independence Day:

A HYMN FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY.

By KINAHAN CORNWALLIS.

I

America may well exalt the day
When INDEPENDENCE crowned her with success!
And glorified her sons who led the way,
Through Revolution's battles and distress!
To that great victory—a nation new!—
A patriotic Union of States!—
From which our country's greatness grandly grew.
Yet on its triumphs greater glory waits!

II

Forever welcome we July the Fourth!
Forever we unite to sing its praise!
Forever honor those who sallied forth
To win the prize that gladdened all their days,
And brought the great Republic into life,
With all the splendor that before it lay.
Thus peace and Liberty were born of strife,
With Britain's King divested of his sway.

III

But well for England, and our country too,
Was this great conquest by Colonial arms,
For Fortune, with its fruits, has blessed the two,
No more to share, as foes, in war's alarms.
So let old England, with us, gladly rise
To celebrate this blessing, hand in hand,—
With all its vast results and enterprise,—
A boon to us and to the mother-land!

IV

But greater, grander, vaster—sea to sea,—
Than all the wonders of the glowing past,
We, through prophetic eyes, our future see,
With each new age still brighter than the last.
Columbia's course will ever onward be,
And, in the world's achievements, lead the way,—
With glowing splendor, might and majesty,—
And lustre add to INDEPENDENCE DAY!

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